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*The  
Complete  
Reloading  
Manual  
for the  
.454  
Casull*



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*Courtesy of Speer Reloading Manual No. 11*

All loading data contained in this book is the result of testing by the various bullet and powder manufacturers. Under carefully controlled conditions and with the components and test equipment specified, this data proved safe in their tests. Since none of the companies, nor the publisher, listed herein has control over the components and equipment which may be used with this published information, no responsibility is implied or assumed for results obtained through its use.

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Follow loading recommendations exactly. Don't substitute components for those listed. Start loading with the minimum powder charges. Understand what you are doing and why it must be done in a specific way. Stay alert when reloading. Don't reload when distracted, disturbed or tired.

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# **The Complete Reloading Manual for the .454 Casull**

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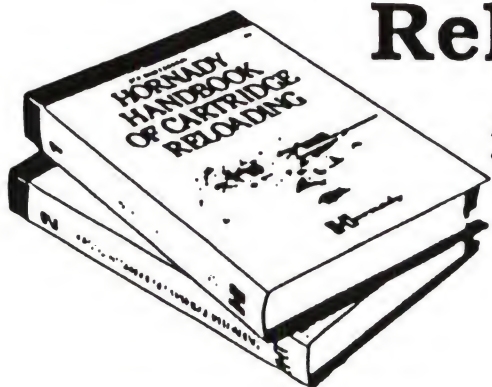
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## SHOOTER'S LOG

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be from a notebook or a standard sheet of stationery. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

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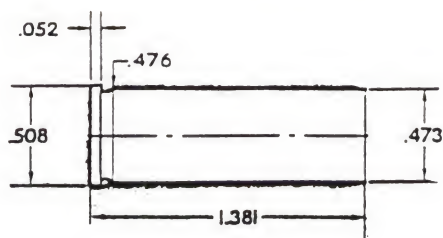
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# **.454 CASULL - HORNADY BULLETS**

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## **454 CASULL**

**HANDGUN:** ..... Freedom Arms  
**BARREL:** ... 7½", 1 in 24" Twist  
**CASE:** ..... Hornady  
**PRIMER:** ..... Federal 205

**BULLET DIAMETER:** .... 0.452"  
**MAXIMUM C.O.L.:** ..... 1.765"  
**MAX. CASE LENGTH:** ... 1.383"  
**CASE TRIM LENGTH:** ... 1.373"

**T**he sports of handgun hunting and metallic silhouette shooting stimulated the production of increasingly powerful pistols. Dick Casull concocted one of if not the most powerful production repeating handguns in existence. The pistol is a superb five shot unfluted cylinder revolver manufactured from stainless steel by Freedom Arms. It is designed especially for the 454 Casull cartridge and its operating pressures. The Freedom Arms revolver is not only extraordinarily well made, precise in fit and finish, but a gun that inspires confidence. Other firearms chambered for the 454 Casull should, perhaps, be loaded up more cautiously.

The cartridge case is similar to the 45 Long Colt, although thicker in the head, made for small rifle primers, and longer, preventing chambering of the 454 Casull in the other firearms. In spite of its name, this cartridge uses .452" diameter bullets.

The 454 Casull is at its best with heavier bullets, either for their momentum or for their penetrating power on game animals. Both bullets listed are excellent for hunting. Hornady loads ammunition for the 454 Casull with the 300 grain XTP MAG bullet.

# .454 CASULL - HORNADY BULLETS

## 240 GRAIN BULLETS

SECTIONAL DENSITY: 0.168  
DIAMETER: 0.452"



#45220 XTP-MAG

B.C.: 0.160 C.O.L.: 1.745"

POWDER	VELOCITY (FPS—feet per second)					
	1600	1650	1700	1750	1800	1850
VIHT N-105	23.9 gr.	25.0 gr.	26.1 gr.			
VIHT N-110	28.4 gr.	29.4 gr.	30.4 gr.	31.4 gr.	32.4 gr.	
AA No. 9	29.4 gr.	30.0 gr.	30.7 gr.	31.3 gr.	32.0 gr.	32.6 gr.
2400	30.0 gr.	30.8 gr.	31.7 gr.	32.6 gr.	33.5 gr.	
IMR 4227	32.8 gr.	33.8 gr.	34.8 gr.			
H 4227	33.1 gr.	33.9 gr.	34.8 gr.			
H 110	34.1 gr.	34.6 gr.	35.2 gr.	35.8 gr.	36.3 gr.	36.9 gr.
WIN 296	33.9 gr.	34.6 gr.	35.3 gr.	36.0 gr.	36.7 gr.	

## 300 GRAIN BULLETS

SECTIONAL DENSITY: 0.210  
DIAMETER: 0.452"



#45230 HP-XTP MAG

B.C.: 0.200 C.O.L.: 1.745"

POWDER	VELOCITY (FPS—feet per second)					
	1400	1450	1500	1550	1600	1650
VIHT N-110	24.4 gr.	25.3 gr.	26.2 gr.	27.1 gr.		
AA No. 9	25.0 gr.	25.8 gr.	26.7 gr.	27.5 gr.		
2400	25.4 gr.	26.2 gr.	27.0 gr.	27.8 gr.		
IMR 4227	28.1 gr.	28.9 gr.	29.8 gr.			
H 110	28.2 gr.	29.0 gr.	29.8 gr.	30.6 gr.	31.4 gr.	
H 4227	28.1 gr.	29.0 gr.	29.9 gr.			
WIN 296	28.3 gr.	29.1 gr.	29.9 gr.	30.7 gr.	31.5 gr.	32.3 gr.

■ indicates maximum load • use with caution





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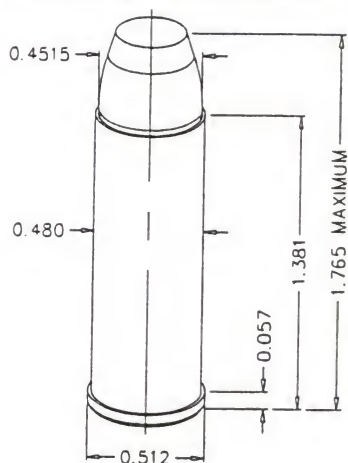
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## 454 Casull



### Test Specifications/ Components

**Firearm Used:** Freedom Arms

**Barrel Length:** 7 1/2"

**Twist:** 1 x 24"

**Case:** Starline

**Trim-to Length:** 1.375"

**Primer:** Federal 205M

### Remarks:

The powerful 454 was developed by Dick Casull and Jack Fullmer in the late 1950s and was a highly modified outgrowth of the 45 Colt cartridge. With factory ammunition delivering a 300 grain bullet at slightly over 1600 fps, the 454 is an awesome cartridge.

Much of this performance is due to the incredibly tight tolerances of the only factory revolver chambered for it — the Freedom Arms 454 Casull. Providing ample power for any North American big game, the Casull is well suited to the handgun hunter. While heavy loads may be necessary for hunting, most shooters will find that reduced loads are more pleasant for general use.

Loading for the Casull presents some special requirements. Given this cartridge's potent recoil, bullets pulling under recoil are a near certainty with heavy loads unless the bullets are seated with adequate neck tension and a very firm crimp. The heavy charges of slow-burning powder that the Casull thrives on require this for best ignition and accuracy. Although most seating dies can seat and crimp in one operation, we strongly recommend that crimping be done in a separate operation. Our best results were obtained with the Lee Factory Crimp die, applying a heavy crimp to the case mouth after the bullets had been seated to the correct depth.

In reviewing the tables for this cartridge, you will note that the 300 grain JSP is loaded to higher velocities than the lighter 240 grain JHC. This is not an error and merely reflects the design differences between the two bullets. The 300 grain JSP was designed with a much heavier jacket and a harder core for use in more potent loadings, while the 240 grain JHC was intended for the velocities and pressures of the milder 45 Colt cartridge. For handloaders wishing to use lighter bullets at higher velocities, we recommend the use of Freedom Arms bullets only, as they are designed to withstand the Casull's velocity.

# .454 CASULL - SIERRA BULLETS

## 454 Casull continued

#8820 .4515" 240 grain JHC  
C.O.A.L. 1.680"



Caution!! Do not load this bullet at velocities greater than 1400 fps!!

Powder/Velocity →	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400
231	10.2	10.8	11.4	11.9	12.5		
Unique	11.5	12.1	12.8	13.4	14.0	14.7	15.3
Univ. Clays	11.5	12.0	12.5	13.0	13.5	14.0	14.5
Power Pistol	11.1	12.0	12.9	13.7	14.6	15.5	
Silhouette	12.9	13.4	14.0	14.5	15.1	15.6	
Viht 3N37	13.0	13.6	14.2	14.8	15.3	15.9	16.5
Blue Dot	15.1	16.1	17.0	18.0	19.0	19.9	20.9
Lil Gun	19.0	20.2	21.4	22.6	23.8	25.0	26.2
H4227	23.2	24.0	24.8	25.6	26.4	27.2	28.0
Energy/ft.lbs.	645	705	767	833	901	971	1044

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Univ. Clays	12.0	1150	705
Hunting Load	H-4227	28.0	1400	1044

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION  
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

# .454 CASULL - SIERRA BULLETS

## 454 Casull continued

#8830 .4515" 300 grain JSP  
C.O.A.L. 1.755"



Caution!! Do not load this bullet at velocities greater than 1550 fps!!

Powder/Velocity →	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550
Viht 3N37	14.7	15.6	16.5	17.4	18.3	19.2		
800-X	14.2	15.2	16.1	17.1	18.0	19.0		
True Blue				17.3	18.1	18.9	19.7	
Viht N350			15.9	16.8	17.7	18.6	19.5	
Viht 3N38	16.8	17.7	18.5	19.4	20.2	21.1		
Blue Dot	16.6	17.5	18.3	19.2	20.1	20.9	21.8	
Viht N105	17.5	18.5	19.5	20.5	21.5	22.5		
AA-No. 9	20.2	21.2	22.2	23.2	24.1	25.1	26.1	
2400	21.1	22.0	22.9	23.8	24.6	25.5	26.4	
Viht N110	20.9	21.8	22.6	23.5	24.4	25.3	26.1	27.0
Lil Gun	22.2	23.1	24.0	24.9				
H110	24.1	24.8	25.6	26.3	27.0	27.7	28.5	29.2
296		24.8	25.7	26.5	27.4	28.3	29.1	30.0
H4227	23.8	24.7	25.6	26.5	27.3	28.2	29.1	30.0
Energy/ft.lbs.	959	1041	1126	1214	1305	1402	1499	1600

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Viht N350	18.6	1450	1402
Hunting Load	Viht N110	26.1	1500	1499

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION

LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.



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# .454 CASULL - SPEER BULLETS

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This massive and powerful cartridge was developed as a significant improvement over the 45 Colt cartridge. Dick Casull experimented with heavy 45 Colt loads in highly modified Colt Single Action revolvers in the search for a top-notch hunting handgun.

Eventually the 454 Casull appeared as a "stretched" 45 Colt case of very robust construction. Five-shot revolvers were developed and sold by Freedom Arms. These finely fitted revolvers are designed to handle high pressures and have a number of features to insure long service life under the heavy recoil of the 454 cartridge.

The cartridge is one of the best for handgun hunting and has accounted for game all around the world where handgun hunting is permitted. It can handle bullets of 300 grains and heavier for deep penetration on large game. The Freedom revolver is capable of remarkable accuracy at long ranges.

The Speer 225 and 260 grain JHP bullets are fine for lighter deer. When hunting larger game we recommend the Uni-Cor 300 grain soft point. This tough bullet gives deep penetration and can be fired in the 1500 ft/sec range in the Casull.

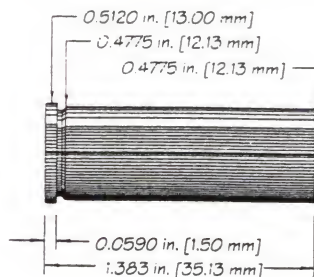
Seat this bullet to the REAR cannelure for this cartridge.

Note that this cartridge uses small rifle primers to handle high pressures. Cases used by Speer for this manual show heavier construction than the ones we used in editions prior to #12. The thicker case walls resulted in a reduction in charge weights from loads developed in older style cases. In spite of this, performance is still very impressive.

The recoil of the 454 Casull revolver can be quite unpleasant to an inexperienced shooter. Hand-loading lighter loads allows the shooter to develop a tolerance to recoil, increasing the loads toward maximum as his skill improves. The grip shape of the Freedom Arms revolver allows the revolver to slide in the hand and this helps keep the felt recoil within tolerable limits.

The 454 Casull was adopted as a standard industry cartridge in 1998; the maximum average pressure was set at 65,000 psi. The loads shown here were developed on a crusher-type barrel furnished to us by Freedom Arms prior to industry adoption and are held to 45,000 cup to provide the best performance with Speer bullets.

# .454 CASULL - SPEER BULLETS



Max. Case Length: 1.383"  
 Trim-to Length: 1.373"  
 Max. Cart. Length: 1.680"  
 RCBS Shellholder: #20  
 Barrel Length: 7.50"  
 Twist: 1-24"

Test Firearm: Freedom Arms 454  
 Case: Freedom Arms  
 Primers: CCI 400



**.451" Dia.**  
**225 Grain**

Sect. Density .158

**45**  
**Mag-JHP**

Ballistic Coefficient	0.169					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.680"					
Speer Part No.	4479					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
<b>Viht.</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>1710</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>1689</b>		<b>37.0</b>	<b>1681</b>
<b>N110</b>	28.0	1548	<b>#9</b>	29.0	1528	<b>H110</b>	35.0	1589
	29.0	1693		36.0	1688		34.0	1587
<b>2400</b>	27.0	1526	<b>296</b>	34.0	1503	<b>IMR</b>	32.0	1465
						<b>4227</b>		

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution. C = Compressed Load



# .454 CASULL - SPEER BULLETS



**.451" Dia.**

**260 Grain**

Sect. Density .183

	<b>45</b>						
	<b>Mag-JHP</b>						
Ballistic Coefficient	0.183						
C.O.L. Tested At	1.675"						
Speer Part No.	4481						

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
	<b>37.0C</b>	<b>1786</b>		<b>33.0C</b>	<b>1571</b>		<b>28.0</b>	<b>1550</b>
<b>H110</b>	35.0	1645	<b>IMR</b>	31.0	1438	<b>AA</b>	26.0	1442
	<b>36.0C</b>	<b>1751</b>		<b>27.0</b>	<b>1560</b>	<b>Viht.</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>1529</b>
<b>296</b>	34.0	1678	<b>2400</b>	25.0	1419	<b>N110</b>	25.0	1421



**.451" Dia.**

**300 Grain**

Sect. Density .211

	<b>45</b>						
	<b>UCSP</b>						
Ballistic Coefficient	0.199						
C.O.L. Tested At	1.750"						
Speer Part No.	4485						

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
	<b>34.0C</b>	<b>1542</b>		<b>27.0C</b>	<b>1451</b>		<b>27.0</b>	<b>1370</b>
<b>H110</b>	32.0	1508	<b>Viht.</b>	25.0	1313	<b>AA</b>	25.0	1299
	<b>32.0</b>	<b>1501</b>		<b>31.0C</b>	<b>1375</b>		<b>25.0</b>	<b>1350</b>
<b>296</b>	30.0	1384	<b>IMR</b>	29.0	1302	<b>2400</b>	23.0	1249

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution. C = Compressed Load

## Introduction

There has been a re-evaluation of the criteria for selecting data for inclusion. This means there will be some disagreement with previous data. The data in this guide takes precedence over **all** prior publications. *Previous editions of this loading guide should be discarded.*

For instance, we left out load combinations that were 'position sensitive'. This is what occurs when the load density is low. Velocity with the powder at the bullet is different from the velocity with the powder at the primer. More of these were noted with the ball propellants than with the extruded propellants.

In light of the growth of IPSC shooting, 38 Super Auto loads that make the 'major' classification (bullet weight x velocity = 175,000) are identified. While we have tested many combinations of components in 9mm Luger to attempt to meet 'major' requirements, we have not been able to find a load that makes the power floor for 'major' without exceeding SAAMI pressure recommendations. And while we were able to find loads for 38 Super Auto, they were not with lighter bullets. Turn to the data section for specific details.

In the charge tables, the 'START' charge listed for each load is our suggested beginning point with the components listed. There is the possibility that changing the named components could cause the maximum charge to be excessive, thus a reduction of the charge would be necessary. Some batches of military brass may require reducing the maximum charge by 8-12% to keep chamber pressure in line.

**If you find signs of excessive pressure while using loads in this loading guide, STOP TESTING and verify all data and loading procedures. If they seem to be in order, check with our lab facility before proceeding.**

Charge weights were obtained using industry standard pressure barrels. When time permitted, off-the-shelf weapons were used to obtain velocity figures. The guns used are noted.

In reloading, the prime concern should always be **SAFETY**. **Always** wear eye protection when reloading, even when working with the 'non-volatile' components. **Always** keep the reloading area clean. **Never** have more than one propellant within easy reach at any given time. Avoid having similar looking bullets of different weights on the bench at the same time. Read the safety notes before loading.

We have not found magnum primers to offer any particular advantage with our handgun powders. But, there are some rifle cartridges where they were used.

Handgun loads using the slower powders (No.7, No.9. and 1680) require heavy crimp and high bullet pull to insure consistency - particularly with cast bullet loads or in extremely cold weather. Be sure your dies are capable of this, otherwise the consistency of the load will be affected.

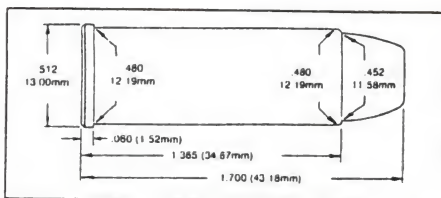
In the text, bullet weights for cast bullets - identified by (L) are actual weights, not the nominal weights.

# .454 CASULL - ACCURATE POWDERS

## .454 CASULL

The .454 Casull is a proprietary cartridge developed by Dick Casull and chambered by Freedom Arms in their five-shot revolver.

The .454 originated as a wildcat but is now available as factory ammunition. The cartridge cases are of thick wall construction and while .45 Colt cases can be chambered, they should never be reloaded with .454 data.



The pressure limits vary among the bullets listed below according to the bullet manufacturer's recommendation.

The .454 Casull represents about the maximum amount of power that can be managed in a revolver. This cartridge is not for the faint hearted. The maximum loads shown below are approved by Freedom Arms for use in their revolvers. **Accurate No. 9** is the propellant of choice for factory ammunition. It is recommended that a tight crimp is used to maximize bullet pull for this cartridge.

### .454 CASULL

Gun	HS PRECISION	Max Length	1.365"
Barrel Length	7 1/2"	Trim Length	1.365"
Primer	CCI 400	OAL Max	1.700"
Case	FA	OAL Min	—

Bullet	START LOADS			Powder	MAXIMUM LOADS			C.U.P.	Length	Cartridge Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.		Grains	Vel.				
250 (L) SWC	No.9	21.6	1326	No.9	24.0	1507	23,000	1.750"		Clements
	5744	26.1	1347	5744	29.0	1531	37,100			
300 (L) FP	No.9	18.9	1228	No.9	21.0	1396	30,200	1.690"		Full Case
	5744	24.3	1260	5744	27.0	1432	45,500			
	1680	27.0	1229	1680	30.0	1397	33,700			
SRA 240 JHP	No.9	25.2	1543	No.9	28.0	1753	39,800	1.705"		Compressed
	5744	31.5	1489	5744	35.0	1693	51,800			
	1680	32.4	1498	1680	36.0	1702	42,200			
FA 240 JHP	No.9	27.9	1686	No.9	31.0	1916	54,100	1.780"		Compressed Compressed
	5744	33.3	1593	5744	37.0	1811	54,000			
	1680	34.2	1557	1680	38.0	1769	46,500			

# .454 CASULL - ACCURATE POWDERS

## .454 CASULL (continued)

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS			C.U.P.	Cartridge Length	Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.			
HDY 250 XTP	No.9	25.2	1558	No.9	28.0	1770	45,800	1.700"	
	5744	30.6	1518	5744	34.0	1726	52,600		
	1680	33.3	1547	1680	37.0	1758	49,100		Compressed
SPR 260 JHP	No.9	24.1	1458	No.9	26.8	1657	38,600	1.710"	
	5744	30.6	1485	5744	34.0	1688	52,000		
	1680	31.5	1448	1680	35.0	1646	42,500		
FA 260 JFP	No.9	27.0	1615	No.9	30.0	1835	52,800	1.765"	
	5744	32.4	1539	5744	36.0	1744	55,200		Compressed
	1680	34.7	1566	1680	38.5	1780	50,800		Compressed
SPR 300 JSP	No.9	23.4	1404	No.9	26.0	1596	46,200	1.765"	
	1680	30.2	1400	1680	33.5	1591	48,500		
HDY 300 XTP	No.9	23.4	1428	No.9	26.0	1623	50,000	1.765"	
	5744	28.8	1381	5744	32.0	1570	52,600		
	1680	30.2	1403	1680	33.5	1594	49,600		
FA 300 JFP	No.9	22.5	1386	No.9	25.0	1575	49,500	1.755"	
	5744	28.8	1376	5744	32.0	1564	54,000		Compressed
	1680	31.1	1427	1680	34.5	1622	54,500		

NOTE: Seating bullets to their cannellure resulted in a loaded overall length in excess of that recommended by Freedom Arms.



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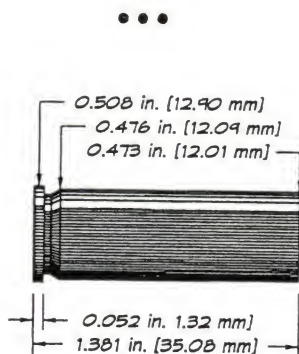
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## 454 CASULL

The 454 Casull in any language means "magnum." It was developed back in the 1950s by Dick Casull and Jack Fullmer and existed for many years as a wildcat, constructed with tri-plex loads. Presently, Freedom Arms offers the 454 Casull and bullets constructed to handle the 454's extreme velocities. Winchester added the 454 Casull to the factory load lineup in 1997. Black Hills offered factory loads for sometime but dropped the 454 in 1996. Starline now manufactures cases.

With all the velocity the 454 Casull is capable of delivering from a 7.5 inch barrel, bullets designed for the 45 Colt should be held to 45 Colt velocities in the 454. Premium bullets like the new Nosler Partition and Barnes X-Bullet perform beautifully at top velocities, along with the Freedom Arms' bullets. The load tables for the bullet of choice should be consulted and loaded accordingly. The best powder choices in the big 454 are H110 and H4227. We used the Winchester Small Rifle primer in Freedom Arms' brass.



**FREEDOM ARMS**  
9.375"

**WINCHESTER SR**

1:24"  
1.380"



# .454 CASULL - HODGDON POWDERS

Powder	Starting Loads			Maximum Loads		
	Grs.	Vel.	Pressure	Grs.	Vel.	Pressure

## 454 CASULL

Case: FREEDOM ARMS      Twist: 1:24"  
Barrel: 9.375"      Trim: 1.380"      Primer: WINCHESTER SR

Bullet: 240 GR. FA JHP			Dia.: .452" COL: 1.765"		
H4227	29.0	1512	22,300 CUP	34.0 C	1834
H110	36.0	1923	38,800 CUP	38.2	2065
LIL'GUN	35.0	1952	39,800 CUP	38.0	2033

Bullet: 240 GR. SIE JHC			Dia.: .452" COL: 1.680"		
HS-6	15.5	1360	27,100 CUP	17.5	1508
UNIVERSAL	10.2	1212	24,400 CUP	11.5	1325
TITEGROUP	10.0	1214	24,500 CUP	11.0	1309

Bullet: 250 GR. BAR X			Dia.: .451" COL: 1.780"		
H4227	26.0	1580	40,800 CUP	28.5 C	1685
H110	27.5	1725	45,100 CUP	28.5	1785
LIL'GUN	26.0	1620	30,100 CUP	28.0	1738

Bullet: 250 GR. NOS JHP			Dia.: .451" COL: 1.700"		
HS-6	15.0	1295	25,400 CUP	17.0	1428
UNIVERSAL	10.8	1221	25,700 CUP	12.0	1290
TITEGROUP	9.7	1193	24,600 CUP	11.2	1298

Bullet: 260 GR. FA JFP			Dia.: .452" COL: 1.765"		
H4227	28.0	1421	19,000 CUP	33.0 C	1762
H110	34.0	1817	37,100 CUP	36.0	1954
LIL'GUN	33.4	1744	28,800 CUP	35.5	1895

Bullet: 260 GR. SPR JHP			Dia.: .451" COL: 1.675"		
HS-6	14.5	1252	25,000 CUP	16.8	1420
UNIVERSAL	10.3	1157	25,500 CUP	11.5	1245
TITEGROUP	9.5	1159	25,200 CUP	11.0	1270

Bullet: 300 GR. FA JFP			Dia.: .452" COL: 1.775"		
H4227	27.0	1541	41,100 CUP	31.0 C	1702
H110	28.5	1618	44,200 CUP	30.0	1716
LIL'GUN	29.0	1666	39,800 CUP	31.0	1746

**NEVER** EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.



# .454 CASULL - HODGDON POWDERS

<i>Powder</i>	<i>Starting Loads</i>			<i>Maximum Loads</i>		
	<i>Grs.</i>	<i>Vel.</i>	<i>Pressure</i>	<i>Grs.</i>	<i>Vel.</i>	<i>Pressure</i>
<b>Bullet: 325 GR. CPB LFN PB</b>				<b>Dia.: .452"</b>		
<b>COL: 1.760"</b>						
H4227	24.7	1389	30,300 CUP	25.5 C	1452	36,900 CUP
H110	25.2	1345	19,700 CUP	26.0	1511	34,300 CUP
LIL'GUN	23.2	1468	33,200 CUP	24.0	1526	38,900 CUP
<b>Bullet: 325 GR. SFT HP</b>				<b>Dia.: .451" COL: 1.750"</b>		
H4227	23.0	1323	42,600 CUP	23.0	1323	42,600 CUP
H110	23.0	1379	36,800 CUP	26.0	1545	52,600 CUP
LIL'GUN	21.0	1395	41,400 CUP	24.0	1558	52,600 CUP
<b>Bullet: 335 GR. CPB LFN GC</b>				<b>Dia.: .452"</b>		
<b>COL: 1.770"</b>						
H4227	23.0	1306	30,000 CUP	25.5	1460	42,800 CUP
H110	23.0	1321	22,200 CUP	26.0	1531	41,600 CUP
LIL'GUN	21.0	1377	34,000 CUP	24.0	1517	44,200 CUP
<b>Bullet: 360 GR. CPB LFN GC</b>				<b>Dia.: .452"</b>		
<b>COL: 1.760"</b>						
H4227	21.0	1205	31,000 CUP	24.0	1406	48,300 CUP
H110	21.0	1265	24,000 CUP	24.0	1447	43,400 CUP
LIL'GUN	20.0	1330	38,000 CUP	23.0	1477	48,200 CUP
<b>Bullet: 395 GR. CPB LFN GC</b>				<b>Dia.: .452"</b>		
<b>COL: 1.770"</b>						
H4227	18.0	1076	29,600 CUP	21.0	1269	48,300 CUP
H110	18.5	1169	27,200 CUP	21.0	1309	43,200 CUP
LIL'GUN	17.5	1212	40,100 CUP	20.0	1331	47,100 CUP

**NEVER** EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.

# **.454 CASULL - ALLIANT POWDERS**

STARTING LOADS					MAXIMUM LOADS			
BULLET	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP
<b>185</b> GR.	Unique	14.0	1580	18,100				
	Bullseye	7.5	1067	15,200				
<b>200</b> GR.	2400	28.0	1769	35,100				
	Blue Dot	24.0	1749	36,900				
	Unique	16.0	1591	38,200				
	Bullseye	7.0	1003	14,000				
<b>225-230</b> GR.	2400	27.0	1711	34,400				
	Blue Dot	23.0	1737	38,800				
	Unique	15.0	1477	37,100				
	Bullseye	7.0	921	15,100				
<b>240</b> GR. FREEDOM ARMS (J.S.P.)	2400	26.0	1639	38,000	2400	30.0	1886	53,700
	Blue Dot	21.0	1588	37,400	Blue Dot	25.0	1896	55,100
	Unique	14.0	1367	33,900	Unique	16.5	1580	49,700
	Bullseye	7.0	842	15,700	Bullseye	11.0	1334	32,300

**WARNING:** Use maximum loads with Freedom Arms Hard Core Bullets only.

**NEVER** EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.

(Source: Hodgdon Reloading Manual # 26)

# **.454 CASULL - ALLIANT POWDERS**

## **.454 CASULL MAGNUM**

(CONTINUED)

STARTING LOADS					MAXIMUM LOADS			
BULLET	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP
<b>250</b> GR.	2400	25.0	1560	34,400				
	Blue Dot	19.0	1444	35,100				
	Unique	13.0	1233	32,900				
	Bullseye	7.0	829	16,100				
<b>260</b> GR. FREEDOM ARMS (J.S.P.)	2400	25.0	1538	35,000	2400	29.0	1780	51,800
	Blue Dot	18.0	1429	38,800	Blue Dot	22.0	1704	53,700
	Unique	12.0	1220	33,600	Unique	15.0	1452	46,600
	Bullseye	7.0	829	19,100	Bullseye	10.5	1255	32,900
<b>300</b> GR. FREEDOM ARMS (J.S.P.)	2400	24.0	1461	42,000	2400	27.0	1656	55,000
	Blue Dot	16.0	1240	39,100	Blue Dot	19.0	1534	54,000
	Unique	10.0	1049	30,600	Unique	14.0	1275	38,600
	Bullseye	6.5	804	20,100	Bullseye	9.5	1062	33,400

**WARNING:** Use maximum loads with Freedom Arms Hard Core Bullets only.

**NEVER** EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.

(Source: Hodgdon Reloading Manual # 26)

# .454 CASULL - IMR POWDERS

## .454 CASULL MAGNUM

(CONTINUED)

STARTING LOADS					MAXIMUM LOADS			
BULLET	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP
185 GR.	800-X	13.0	1392	18,000				
	700-X	7.0	958	13,400				
200 GR.	IMR4227	32.0	1690	31,700				
	800-X	13.0	1314	18,400				
	700-X	7.0	977	15,800				
225- 230 GR.	IMR4227	31.0	1647	31,000				
	800-X	14.0	1339	24,400				
	700-X	7.0	880	16,200				
240 GR FREEDOM ARMS (J.H.P.)	IMR4227	30.0	1477	34,600	IMR4227	34.0	1769	44,400
	800-X	14.0	1371	25,500	800-X	20.0	1794	50,700
	700-X	7.0	908	16,800	700-X	11.0	1327	42,600
250 GR.	IMR4227	29.0	1379	34,100				
	800-X	13.5	1320	24,800				
	700-X	7.0	878	17,000				
260 GR FREEDOM ARMS (J.H.P.)	IMR4227	29.0	1349	33,400	IMR4227	33.0	1688	43,200
	800-X	13.0	1315	25,200	800-X	19.0	1701	52,600
	700-X	7.0	829	17,400	700-X	9.5	1127	33,600
300 GR FREEDOM ARMS (J.H.P.)	IMR4227	26.0	1468	42,100	IMR4227	29.0	1540	54,400
	800-X	11.0	1031	23,600	800-X	16.0	1457	53,100
	700-X	6.5	800	18,600	700-X	9.0	971	35,400

**WARNING:** Use maximum loads with Freedom Arms Hard Core Bullets only.

**NEVER** EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.

(Source: Hodgdon Reloading Manual # 26)





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WLR, #8-1/2 - 120, Large Rifle

WLRM, #8-1/2M - 120, Large Rifle Magnum

WSR, #6-1/2 - 116, Small Rifle

### BALL POWDER Propellants

680 Powder, 1 Lb. Container

748 Powder, 1 and 8 Lb. Containers

760 Powder, 1 and 8 Lb. Containers

### Unprimed Rifle

U218	218 Bee	U300H	300 H&H Mag.
U22H	22 Hornet	U300	300 Savage
U22250	22-250 Rem.	U307	307 Win.
U220S	220 Swift	U308	308 Win.
U223R	223 Rem.	U3220	32-20 Win.
U225	225 Win.	U338	338 Win.Mag.
U243	243 Win.	U348	348 Win
U6MMR	6mm Rem.	U356	356 Win.
U2520	25-20 Win.	U358	358 Win.
U2506	25-06 Rem.	U375H	375 H&H Mag.
U257P	257 Roberts + P	U375W	375 Win.
U264	264 Win. Mag.	U4440	44-40 Win.
U270	270 Win.	U44M	44 Rem. Mag.
U284	284 Win.	U4570	45-70 Govt.
U7MM	7mm Mauser	U458	458 Win. Mag.
U3006	30-06 Springfield		
U3040	30-40 Krag		
U300WM	300 Win. Mag.		



# .454 CASULL - WINCHESTER POWDERS

## WINCHESTER

CASE: WINCHESTER

BARREL: 5.75"

PRIMER: WINCHESTER LP

BULLET: 260 GR. WIN JSP

DIA. .452"

C.O.L. 1.765" MAX

296

34.0

1830

40,000 PSI

36.0

1965

50,000 PSI

BULLET: 300 GR. WIN JSP

DIA. .452"

C.O.L. 1.765" MAX

296

29.5

1600

38,000 PSI

31.5

1750

50,000 PSI

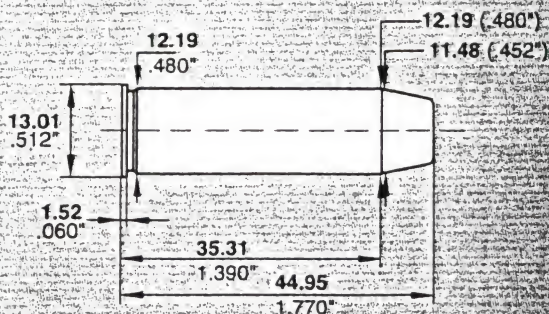
**WARNING:** Use maximum loads with Freedom Arms Hard Core Bullets only.

**NEVER** EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.



## .454 Casull

Dimensions in millimeters (inches)



### NOTE:

This cartridge is not supported by CIP or by SAAMI. The dimensions shown here have been measured from cartridges and therefore do not represent rifle chambers accurately. For the same reason no pressure data is given here. The listed maximum loads do not exceed 350 MPa (50750 psi).

Country of origin:	USA
Year of introduction:	1957
Primer:	Small Rifle
Max. bullet diameter:	11.48 mm (.452")
Max. cartridge length:	44.95 mm (1.770")
Max. shell length:	35.31 mm (1.390"), trim to 35.05 mm (1.380")
Max. pressure:	See note!

The .454 Casull, originally called the .454 Magnum Revolver, was developed by Dick Casull and Jack Fulmer and introduced in 1957. The new cartridge was intended primarily for metallic silhouette shooting and handgun hunting. The first pistol ever chambered in this monster was a five-shot single-action revolver manufactured by Freedom Arms according to the drawings of Dick Casull. This revolver was designed to stand the rifle-like operating chamber pressures of the round.

The .454 Casull is similar to the .45 Colt, although thicker in the case head, made for small rifle primers, and longer, preventing chambering of the .454 Casull in other firearms. In spite of the name, this round uses bullets of .452" (11.48 mm) diameter.

The .454 Casull is one of the most powerful revolver cartridges available and, as with any high intensity cartridge, the throat erosion or flame cutting may occur. Slightly reduced loads may be beneficial in reducing these problems.



# .454 CASULL - VIHTAVUORI POWDERS

## .454 Casull

### TEST COMPONENTS:

Test barrel: 190 mm (7 1/2"), 1 in 24" twist.

Primers: Small Rifle

Cases: Starline, trim-to length 35.05 mm (1.380")

### Reloading Data, English Units:

Bullet				Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load		
Weight [grs]	Type	Mfg.	C.O.L. [in.]	Type	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Pressure [psi]
185	HP/XTP	Hornady	1.642*	3N37	17.6	1752	21.0	1962	50700
				N350	18.2	1772	21.4	1959	50700
				N105	26.6	2001	29.3	2159	50700
225	JHP	Speer	1.681	3N37	16.8	1558	19.6	1719	50700
				N105	24.6	1765	26.7	1913	50700
				N110	30.8	1864	33.5	2005	50700
250	HP/XTP	Hornady	1.685	3N37	15.6	1437	18.2	1601	50700
				N105	21.4	1585	24.3	1765	50700
				N110	28.1	1719	30.7	1873	50700
300	UCHP	Speer	1.752	3N37	15.2	1296	17.0	1414	50700
				N105	19.7	1408	23.0	1588	50700
				N110	26.3	1555	28.7	1686	50700

\*) The bullet crimp is over the ogive.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE WITH CAUTION!

LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

## .454 CASULL - BARNES BULLETS

Based on the .45 Colt case, the .454 Casull was designed to push hunting weight bullets at exceptionally high velocity. At these velocities, bullet construction is critical. A tough bullet that will not suffer jacket separation or weight loss is a must. I am lucky enough to live in Alaska and hunt on a regular basis. I have used the .454 to take moose, black bear, caribou and several Sitka blacktail deer. When it is properly loaded, performance on game is impressive.



I have found that most of my .454s have digested bullets with a .451 inch diameter with more success than bullets of .452 inch. As with any hunting tool, shot placement is critical, but when put on target, the big bullet does the job! The Barnes 250-grain X-Bullet is a natural choice for a hunting bullet in the big revolver. With 30.0 grains of Win 296 the XPB will reach over 1,600 fps from a 7.5-inch barrel. That kind of velocity combined with the expansion and penetration of the Barnes XPB spells trouble for critters of all sizes. Of course, this is at the cost of a little bit of recoil, but it is very manageable for most experienced handgunners. A tight crimp is a must. Bullets pulled under recoil will instantly take the "revolve" out of revolver.

I'm a big-bore revolver fan, and the .454 Casull is a large reason for that. I shoot .44s, .45s and even a few rifle calibers in single-shot pistols, and all of them have a common denominator — you need to practice. You owe it to yourself, and most of all, the animals.

— Michael Phillips



**Case:**  
Freedom Arms  
**Primer:**  
CCI 500  
**Barrel:**  
15"

**Parent Case:**  
.45 Colt  
**Trim To:**  
1.380"

## .454 Casull



250-grain XPB

S.D. .176      B.C. .188

### Suggested Bullet Use



<b>Powder</b>	<b>Charge Weight (grains)</b>	<b>Velocity (fps)</b>	<b>Maximum Load</b>	<b>Velocity (fps)</b>
AA No. 9	22.0	1585	23.0	1636
H110	27.5	1708	28.5	1798
Enforcer*	28.0	1754	31.0	1916
Win 296	28.0	1719	30.0	1832

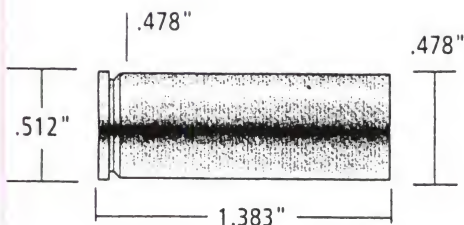
XLC Coated X-Bullet data cannot be used with other bullets, including non-coated X-Bullets.  
Maximum loads should be used with caution - Always Start With Minimum Loads.

- Recommended powder

[illegible]



# 454 Casull



Origin	USA
Ammunition Available	1983
Bullet Diameter	0.452"
Maximum Cartridge O.A.L.	1.765"
Maximum Case Length	1.383"
Trim Length	1.373"

## About the Cartridge

This powerful revolver cartridge existed for a long time as a wildcat before Winchester added the 454 Casull to its list of cartridges in 1997. Black Hills produced ammunition prior to the Winchester offering but dropped the round from their line about a year before the Winchester introduction. Freedom Arms began supplying cases for the round in 1983, and that firm offers superbly made and very strong five-shot revolvers for this powerful round. Starline currently manufactures brass for the Casull, and cases of this headstamp were used in load development for this manual. Note that a small rifle primer is designated for this large revolver round.



# .454 CASULL - SWIFT BULLETS

## Test Components

Case  
Primer  
Test Barrel  
Barrel Length  
Barrel Twist

Starline  
CCI-400  
Shilen  
20"  
1-14"

\*Lowest Standard Deviation on Velocity

## Reloading Data

265 Grain A-Frame™



Bullet		Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load		
Type	Grain Wt.	Type	Grain Wt.	Velocity	Grain Wt.	Velocity	Load Density
<i>Hodgdon Powder Company</i>							
Swift A-Frame	265	H-110	34.7	2141	37.3	2282	118%
	265	*H-4227	32.6	1923	35.0	2066	111%
<i>Alliant Powder Company</i>							
Swift A-Frame	265	2400	30.2	2022	32.0	2126	101%
	265	BlueDot	24.2	1919	26.0	2028	82%
<i>IMR Powder Company</i>							
Swift A-Frame	265	IMR-4227	31.6	1844	34.0	1950	108%
	265	IMR-800-X	21.4	1916	23.0	2020	73%

- ☐ Indicates maximum load—never exceed maximum load!  
Loads less than minimum charges shown are not recommended

# .454 CASULL - SWIFT BULLETS

## Test Components

Case  
Primer  
Test Barrel  
Barrel Length  
Barrel Twist

Starline  
CCI-400  
Shilen  
20"  
1-14"

\* *Lowest Standard Deviation on Velocity*

## Reloading Data

300 Grain A-Frame™



Bullet		Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load		
Type	Grain Wt.	Type	Grain Wt.	Velocity	Grain Wt.	Velocity	Load Density

### *Hodgdon Powder Company*

Swift A-Frame	300	H-110	29.9	1878	32.2	1992	114%
	300	H-4227	28.8	1705	31.0	1847	110%

### *Alliant Powder Company*

Swift A-Frame	300	2400	26.0	1739	28.0	1882	99%
	300	*BlueDot	20.9	1688	22.5	1796	80%

### *IMR Powder Company*

Swift A-Frame	300	IMR-4227	29.8	1714	32.0	1848	113%
	300	IMR-800-X	18.6	1688	20.0	1778	71%

- ☐ Indicates maximum load—never exceed maximum load!  
Loads less than minimum charges shown are not recommended

# .454 CASULL - SWIFT BULLETS

## Test Components

Case  
Primer  
Test Barrel  
Barrel Length  
Barrel Twist

Starline  
CCI-400  
Shilen  
20"  
1-14"

\* *Lowest Standard Deviation on Velocity*

## Reloading Data

325 Grain A-Frame™



Bullet		Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load		
Type	Grain Wt.	Type	Grain Wt.	Velocity	Grain Wt.	Velocity	Load Density

### *Hodgdon Powder Company*

Swift A-Frame	325	H-110	26.7	1680	28.7	1812	111%
	325	*H-4227	27.9	1650	30.0	1759	116%

### *Alliant Powder Company*

Swift A-Frame	325	2400	24.2	1603	26.0	1739	100%
	325	BlueDot	19.5	1572	21.0	1679	81%

### *IMR Powder Company*

Swift A-Frame	325	IMR-4227	27.9	1583	30.0	1732	116%
	325	IMR-800-X	17.2	1541	18.5	1638	71%

☐ Indicates maximum load—never exceed maximum load!  
Loads less than minimum charges shown are not recommended

## SHOOTER'S LOG

[illegible]



# POWDER BURNING RATE CHART

*Current Canister Grade Powders in order of approximate burning rate.  
(R1 being the fastest, 748 the slowest)*

*This list is approximate only and not to be used for developing loads.*

1. R-1, Norma	36. No. 9, Accurate Arms
2. N31, Vihtavuori	37. R123, Norma
3. TITEWAD, Accurate Arms	38. N110, Vihtavuori
4. RED DOT, Alliant	39. H110, Hodgdon
5. CLAYS, Hodgdon	40. 296, Winchester
6. "HI-SKOR" 700-X, IMR Co.	41. IMR4227, IMR Co.
7. BULLSEYE, Alliant	42. H4227, Hodgdon
8. TITEGROUP, Hodgdon	43. SR4759, IMR Co.
9. American Select, Alliant	44. 1680, Accurate Arms
10. SOLO 1000, Accurate Arms	45. 200, Norma
11. GREEN DOT, Alliant	46. Reloader 7, Alliant
12. INTERNATIONAL, Hodgdon	47. IMR4198, IMR Co.
13. PB, IMR Co.	48. H4198, Hodgdon
14. N320, Vihtavuori	49. N120, Vihtavuori
15. WST, Winchester	50. H322, Hodgdon
16. No.2, Accurate Arms	51. 2015 BR, Accurate Arms
17. SR 7625, IMR Co.	52. N130, Vihtavuori
18. HP-38, Hodgdon	53. IMR3031, IMR Co.
19. 231, Winchester	54. N133, Vihtavuori
20. UNIQUE, Alliant	55. H335, Hodgdon
21. UNIVERSAL, Hodgdon	56. N135, Vihtavuori
22. Power Pistol, Alliant	57. 2230, Accurate Arms
23. N330, Vihtavuori	58. 2460, Accurate Arms
24. HERCO, Alliant	59. H4895, Hodgdon
25. WSF, Winchester	60. IMR4895, IMR Co.
26. N340, Vihtavuori	61. RELODER-12, Alliant
27. "HI-SKOR" 800-X, IMR Co.	62. IMR-4320, IMR Co.
28. SR4756, IMR Co.	63. 3100, Accurate Arms
29. NO. 5, Accurate Arms.	64. IMR 4064, IMR Co.
30. HS-6, Hodgdon	65. 202, Norma
31. 3N37, Vihtavuori.	66. 2520, Accurate Arms
32. N350, Vihtavuori	67. RELODER-15, Alliant
33. BLUE DOT, Alliant	68. N140, Vihtavuori
34. No. 7, Accurate Arms	69. VARGET, Hodgdon
35. 2400, Alliant	70. 748, Winchester

This is a unique reloading/information manual. It contains currently available data regarding loading information for this individual cartridge. This data is compiled from the leading U.S. Bullet and gunpowder manufacturers.

This manual is not intended to replace the many comprehensive, in-depth reloading manuals available from a host of publishers, but instead provide you with a quick and easy-to-use reference source which will enable you to compare loads, types of powders, bullets and shot charges for components you may have on hand.

Loadbooks USA, Inc., also offers the following cartridges in this series of unique One Book/One Caliber reloading manuals: .22 Hornet, .220 Swift, .222 Remington, .223 Remington, .22-250 Remington, .225 Winchester, .243 Winchester, .244/6mm Remington, 6.5x55 Swedish, .25-06 Remington, .250-3000 Savage, .270 Winchester, 7x57 Mauser, 7mm-08 Remington, .280 Remington, .284 Winchester, 7mm Remington Magnum, 7.62x39mm, 7.62x54mm Russian, .30-30 Winchester, .303 British, .308 Winchester, .30-06 Springfield, .300 Winchester Magnum, .300 Weatherby Magnum, .300 Savage, 30/40 Krag, .300 & .375 H & H Magnum, .338 Winchester Magnum, 8mm Remington Magnum, 8mm/06 & .338/06, 8mm Mauser, .356 & .358 Winchester, .35 Whelen, .35 Remington & .350 Remington Magnum, .375 & .458 Winchester, .444 Marlin, .45-70 Government, .25 & .32 A.C.P., .32 H&R Magnum, .380 ACP, 9mm Luger, .38 Super, .38 Special, .357 Magnum, 10mm/.41 Auto, .41 Magnum, .44 Magnum, .44 Special, .45 ACP, .45 Colt, .454 Casull, and The Weatherby Magnums covering 10 different Weatherby calibers.

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